# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# COAL
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4631
ANSWERED ON:22.04.2003
RELEASE OF COAL TO BRIQUETTING UNITS .
BASUDEB ACHARIA

**Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the briquetting units have been allowed for non- Ranigunj coal only;

(b) if so, the manner in which the coal is being released to these units from Ranigunj in West Bengal;

(c) whether Eastern Coalfields Limited is still releasing Ranigunj coal to these units that are entitled for slack coal only;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by the Union Government in this regard;

(e) whether the Union Governmentare aware of the misuse and illegal selling of coal allocated to briquetting units in West Bengal (most of them non-existent or are not in operation) by Coal India Limited;

(f) if so, the facts thereof;

g) whether the Union Government propose to get the matter enquired by the Chief Vigilance Commission; and

h) if so, the steps taken so far by the Union Government in this regard?

## Answer

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA)

(a)&(b): Yes, Sir. Coal is being released from collieries of Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL) to briquettingunits as per "linkage advice letter" issued by Coal India Limited (CIL)and in accordance with the maximum permissible quantity fixed for each unit on the basis of its lifting in the preceding three years. Supply of coal is made strictly on the basis of linkage and current sponsorship/positive status report from the State Government under which the unit fall.

(c): No, Sir.

(d): Does not arise in view of reply given at (c) above.

(e)to(h): Union Governmentis not aware about the misuse of coal allocated to briquetting units. However, under the new coal sales policy for non-core sector consumers, which is being evolved by Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL), a simpleand transparent policy for sale of coal to this sector is envisaged. The system of linkage and sponsorship is being done away with and in its place ECL will enter into a Fuel Supply Agreement with the consumers. Coal companies have been advised to get all briquette units manufacturing smokeless fuel inspected and send a report about action taken for discontinuance/ continuance of coal supply to these units based on functioning/non-functioning of the units.